Commission Offered by Public Sector Fertiliser Units

2617. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the prevailing market prices of phospheric and potassic fertilisers after decontrol;

(b) what is the commission being offered by various Public Sector Fertiliser units to their dealers;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the units have been permitted to market fertilisers without printing to sale price on the bag; and

(d) what are the comparative figures of consumption of fertilisers for the months of September and October, 1992 as compared to the figures of 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILISERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Following decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers, there are no uniform prices of these fertilisers. At present, the ex-ware house prices (excluding local taxes and dealers margin) of DAP and MOP vary between Rs 7400 to Rs 7900 per tonne and Rs 5400 to Rs 5700 per tonne respectively. This excludes the concession of Rs 1000 per tonne for DAP and MOP announced by the Government for the farmers.

(b) After decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers, the public sector units have not fixed any specific commission to their dealers.

(c) As per the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commdities) Rules, 1977, the printing of maximum retail price by the manufacturers on the bags of all fertilisers, except on those fertilisers which are under statutory price control, is obligatory. No unit has been exempted from compliance of these provisions.

(d) The sales of major fertilisers during the months of September 1992 and October 1992 *vis-a-vis* September 1991 and October 1991 are as under:—

(Figures in lakh mts.)

	Sept. 91	Sept. 92	Oct. 91	Oct. 92
Urea	13.75	13.65	5.29	9.00
DAP	2.37	0.58	6.68	5.00
MOP	1.99	0.51	2.35	0.77

Demand and Supply of Industrial Alcohols

2618. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the demand and Supply of different types of Industrial alcohols in the country during the last two years and imports during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): The Industrial alcohols mainly in use are Ethyl Alcohol and Methanol. The total availability of Ethyl Alcohol and Methanol and the effective demand for industrial applications during the last two years is as follows:

Year	Total Availability	Demand for Industrial applications
Ethyl Alcohol		(in lakh litres)
1989-90	9796	3076
1990-91	10,870	4597
Methanol	(in tonnes)	
1989-90	2,22,000	2,00,000
1990-91	2,35,000	2,20,000

No import of Ethyl Alcohol has been reported during this period. The reported import of Methanol has been as follows:

Year	Import (in tonnes)
1989-90	52,700
1990-91	15,200

Shortage of Vital Medicines in Delhi

2619. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi is facing an acute shortage of many vital medicines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have since finalised the new drug pricing Policy; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN):

(a) and (b) No general shortage of any vital drug came to the notice of the Government, except for some temporary shortage of branded formulations for which therapeutic equivalents were generally available.

(c) and (d) Review of the Drug Policy 1986 is in its final stages and a background Note has already been placed on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on 12.8.1992.

Profit of Multinational and Indian Drug Companies

2620. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) the sales turn-over, Profit before and after tax for the last three years of top ten multinational and Indian drug companies;

(b) the details of the bulk drugs produced from the basic stage by those Companies individually;

(c) whether it is a fact that the growth profitability of the drug sector has been severely afected because of unhealthy Government controls and lack of the required policy support; and

(d) if so, what is being done to liberalise drug sector to attain its potential growth during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) To the extent available, information is enclosed (Statement No. 1) (*See* below) Rest of the information would be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Industrial approval for manufacture of bulk drugs are given only as per basic stages. Manufacture from late stage intermediates/Penultimates is permitted only in a few cases taking into consideration various reasons like technological constraints, economic viability etc.

To the extent information is available, drugs manufactured by 10 leading multinational and 10 Indian companies are given in the Statement encolsed. (Statement No. 2) (*See* below)

(c) and (d) The Review of the Durg Policy 1986 is almost in its final stages and a Background Note has already been placed, on 2.8.92, on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament for discussion. One of the objectives of the review is to encourage more investment in the durg sector to meet the growing requirements of medicines in the country.